

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A payment system for making an electronic payment by a user to a provider via an electronic interface, the system comprising:
 - a. an input device for receiving user data and a requested transaction;
 - 15 b. a transmitting network for transmitting the user data and the requested transaction;
 - c. a receiver processing system for receiving the user data and the transaction;
 - d. the receiver processing system further including an authentication system for authenticating the user and the transaction, approving the transaction and initiating completion of the transaction in accordance with criteria established by the user.
- 20 2. The payment system of claim 1, wherein the input device is a point-of-sale terminal.
3. The payment system of claim 1, wherein the input device is an ATM/POS terminal.